



USDA – National
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Field Office

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin



Cooperating with
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of Agriculture

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Week Ending July 23, 2006

HOT, DRY CONDITIONS PERSIST

Another week of hot, dry conditions across the State continued to deplete soil moisture supplies and further stressed crops, pastures, and livestock. Although Tennessee experienced mostly hot and humid weather last week, some relief was provided by a front which brought showers and thunderstorms to portions of the State on Friday and Saturday. Crop conditions all declined from the week earlier, but most were still rated in the good-to-fair category. Over a third of the State’s pastures were rated in very poor-to-poor condition and many livestock producers are having to provide supplemental feed and hay. In some areas, the second cutting of hay is being delayed due to the dry conditions and rotation of cattle herds. Corn, cotton, and soybean development continued ahead of their 5-year averages, with the largest gap being soybeans at two weeks ahead of normal. Almost two-thirds of the State’s corn acreage has entered into the dough stage, while one-fifth has entered the dent stage. The major activities accomplished during the seven days suitable for fieldwork last week were topping tobacco, applying pesticides, irrigating crops, and tending livestock.

As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 31 percent very short, 42 percent short, and 27 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 26 percent very short, 42 percent short, and 32 percent adequate. Temperatures last week averaged 1 to 3 degrees above normal across the entire State, while precipitation averaged below normal.

CROP PROGRESS: Through July 23, 2006					CONDITION: On July 21, 2006					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2005	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn Dough	62	20	54	59	Corn	6	11	25	42	16
Corn Dent	20	n/a	14	14	Cotton	0	3	21	64	12
Cotton Setting Bolls	64	35	69	60	Pastures	15	23	34	27	1
Soybeans Blooming	82	71	85	55	Soybeans	5	10	24	49	12
Soybeans Setting Pods	55	39	63	33	Tobacco	3	6	29	49	13
Tobacco Topped	26	15	28	30						

n/a= not available

County Agent Comments

“Hot weather has pushed crop maturity a great deal this week. Most of the county received timely rainfall last week and it was definitely needed for crops to survive the high temperatures which have run between 95 and 100 all week. Parts of the county that did not receive as much precipitation last week have crops and pasture that are hurting for moisture. Producers are making post-emerge herbicide and fungicide applications on soybeans. Generally speaking, corn yield projections for the county as a whole are looking good at this time.”

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“Extremely dry conditions have forced many tobacco growers to apply supplemental irrigation where possible. Pastures are suffering and a few producers are supplementing with hay.”

Ronnie Barron, Cheatham County

“Extreme heat conditions have caused rapid decline in crops and pasture/hay. Hay is being fed and water is critical for livestock. Ponds have dried up; streams are dry or reduced in supply. Some herds have been moved to water supplies, others supplied from wells and utilities.”

John Teague, Bedford County

“Rainfall has been very sporadic, if at all. All crops are beginning to suffer under high heat and low moisture conditions.”

S. Chadwell, Putnum County

“Pastures are drying up, and some beef producers are already feeding hay. Corn twisting is beginning to suffer. It doesn’t look like there will be a second cutting of hay.”

Mike Heiskell, Claiborne County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: July 23, 2006 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F Since April 1	
	Week Ending July 23, 2006				Current Week 07/23/06	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
Ames_Plantation	101	63	83	4	0.03	1	26.76	-4.49	1509	208
Tri-City_RGNL_A	94	61	77	3	0.14	2	22.68	-1.64	886	55
Brownsville_TN	99	62	84	4	0.47	1	28.91	-2.35	1589	475
Chattanooga/Lov	97	68	82	4	0.52	1	25.13	-6.46	1463	283
Clarksville_Sew	98	62	81	4	0.89	1	26.55	-2.86	1356	231
Cookeville	98	62	80	5	1.50	2	30.99	-2.28	1039	373
Covington	99	60	82	3	1.21	1	27.76	-3.16	1452	132
Crossville_AP	92	61	77	4	0.78	3	28.00	-4.89	944	173
Dayton	95	65	80	4	0.24	2	22.87	-10.04	1156	107
Dickson_AG	99	59	80	3	0.81	2	27.89	-3.85	1162	-21
Dover_1W	98	62	82	5	1.21	1	27.30	-3.39	1251	262
Dyersburg	99	59	83	3	0.24	1	28.98	-0.57	1604	190
Erwin_1W	94	61	77	6	0.23	2	31.72	2.63	875	-134
Huntingdon_Wate	100	62	83	5	0.60	1	28.60	-2.40	1384	327
Jackson_Exp_Stn	100	61	83	5	1.00	1	28.30	-2.89	1491	247
Kingston_AG	98	64	80	5	1.06	3	29.57	-4.84	1174	276
Knoxville_AP	97	65	81	5	1.04	3	24.08	-4.63	1301	291
Lewisburg	99	60	81	4	0.32	3	29.15	-3.56	1240	214
Lexington_TN	99	62	83	4	0.88	1	30.11	-0.05	1334	618
Linden	99	59	82	5	0.59	1	29.52	-3.46	1277	236
Martin	97	61	82	4	0.67	2	31.62	0.47	1371	180
Mc_Minnville_Tn	97	65	81	5	0.48	2	31.17	-0.62	1279	-57
Memphis_AG	102	62	84	2	0.00	0	28.25	-2.08	1632	55
Milan	100	58	82	4	0.55	1	30.17	-1.72	1405	240
Murfreesboro_5N	101	62	82	5	0.71	2	31.61	0.51	1283	-41
Nashville_Metro	100	65	83	5	0.45	2	25.71	-2.31	1454	219
Newcomb	94	63	78	5	1.32	3	28.23	-3.89	921	210
Oneida	94	62	78	6	1.24	3	28.28	-3.84	937	-163
Portland_TN	99	63	82	6	0.49	1	23.84	-6.73	1194	196
Pulaski_Water_P	99	63	82	3	0.15	2	31.05	-1.49	1304	51
Savannah_6SW	100	60	83	3	0.00	0	31.38	-2.63	1472	392
Sparta_TN	97	62	81	5	1.03	2	32.54	0.12	1209	349
Springfield	98	62	81	5	0.99	2	28.90	-0.51	1112	97
Springhill	102	63	82	5	0.73	2	28.04	-4.66	1293	282
Union_City	100	59	81	4	0.45	1	34.08	3.63	1313	143
Waynesboro_TN	99	62	81	4	2.34	3	33.51	-0.87	1181	-24

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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